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**Subject:** The Blumenfield Buzz - July 2015  
**Date:** Friday, July 24, 2015 2:42:45 PM

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**The Blumenfield Buzz**

**7/24/2015**

## Blumenfield, Tony Hawk Inaugurate New Skatepark



In June, Tony Hawk and members of the Birdhouse Skateboards team joined Councilmember Bob Blumenfield and City leaders to help the community inaugurate the Lanark Skate Plaza: a brand new 14,000 sq. ft. street plaza style skatepark set among old-growth trees at Lanark Recreation Center in Canoga Park.

Blumenfield joined the world famous skateboarder, the Birdhouse Team, and local youth, hopping on the vintage skateboard on which he first learned to ride to try out the new park.

"This is a great resource for the community," said Blumenfield. "Growing up, I loved to skateboard, but we didn't have anything like that. The Lanark Skate Plaza will be a great place for our kids to stay active, learn a sport, and do it in a way that is safe and fun."

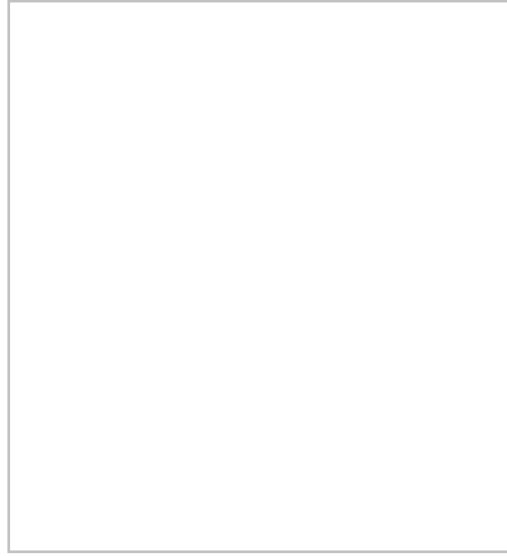


Lanark Recreation Center was identified as a potential skate park site by the Department of Recreation and Parks in 2008. Upon election to the City Council, in 2013 Blumenfield worked with Recreation and Parks to make this a priority project for the West Valley. The new skate plaza, designed by New Line Skateparks and built by California Skateparks, was partially funded by a Tony Hawk Foundation grant.

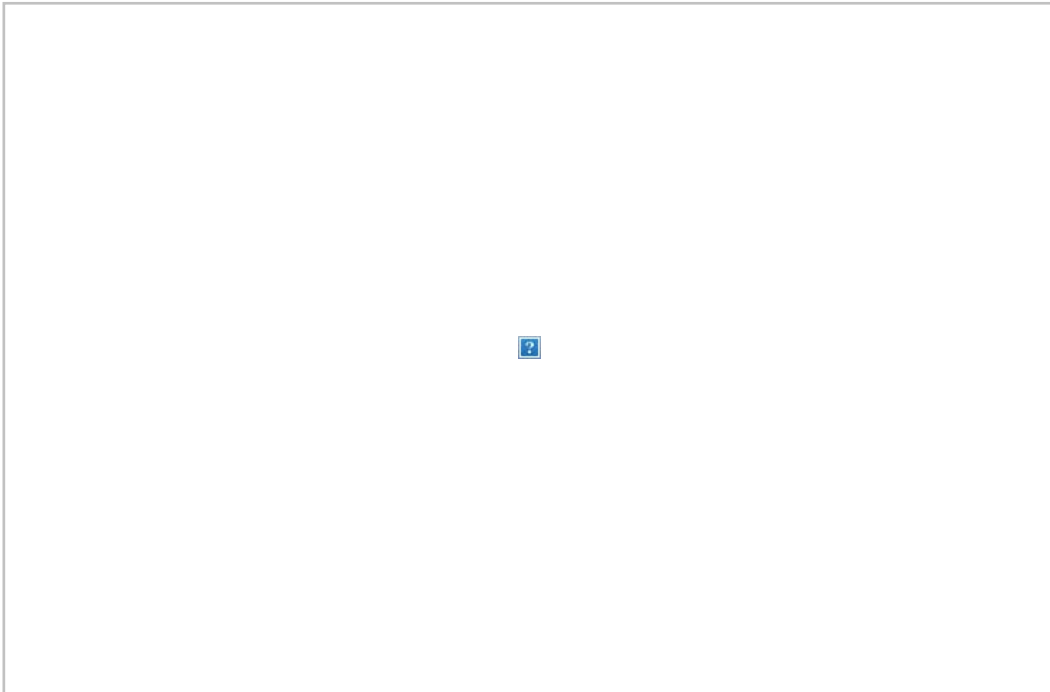
"I want to congratulate Canoga Park on this skatepark," said Hawk. "We were happy to help, and it was the effort of the Councilman who made it happen and it's exciting to be here."

The skatepark is the first to be built west of the Sepulveda Basin and features a poured in place street plaza with hubbas, rails, ledges, and transitions.

Lanark Recreation Center is located at 21816 Lanark St. in Canoga Park and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 10:30 pm, and weekends from 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.



## Blumenfield Cuts Ribbon at Fire Station 84 Park



Earlier this month, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield was joined by representatives from the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Los Angeles Fire Department, the United Firefighters of Los Angeles and a host of neighbors and community members to cut the ribbon at the new Costanzo Fire Station 84 Park on Canoga Avenue in Woodland Hills.

Fire Station 84 operated at the corner of Canoga Ave. and Costanzo St. from 1949 until being relocated to a new location in Warner Center in 2007. The vacant fire station remained unused and became blighted, overgrown with weeds and a place where illicit activity occurred. In 2013, Blumenfield, newly elected to the Los Angeles City

"I'm thrilled to see that the site of former Fire Station 84 will continue to be of service to the community," said Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Ralph M. Terrazas. "The LAFD is an integral part of our City and as we continue to provide the highest level of service, we are also proud that our leaders and the community are vested in the history and traditions that make Los Angeles great. My thanks to Councilmember Bob Blumenfield and the entire community for their vision and commitment to this project."

"Old Fire Station 84 served the City of Los Angeles for nearly 50 years, and it is the Department of Recreation and Parks' honor to be able to carry on its legacy with Costanzo Fire Station 84 Park," said Michael A. Shull,

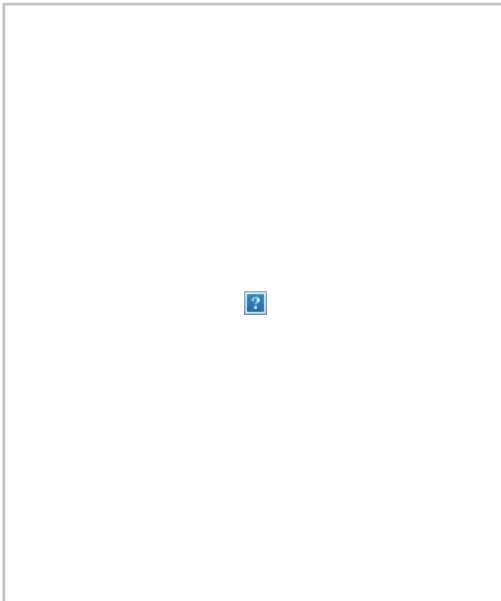
Council, undertook a massive community outreach effort to determine the future use of the site, and began working feverishly to transform the area.

"Today, I'm proudly checking this park opening off my list of first term priorities," said Blumenfield. "The neighborhood around the old Fire Station 84 is one of the oldest and most beautiful in the Valley, but after years of neglect, the property had fallen into disrepair. After two years of hard work and community input, we have transformed what was a blighted piece of land into an incredible neighborhood resource."

General Manager of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Through neighborhood canvassing, mailed surveys, and tabling at local businesses, over 500 responses were collected with an overwhelming consensus in favor of an open space use for the park. Blumenfield worked to ensure the community was engaged in every stage of the park's construction, holding a community design meeting to inform Recreation and Parks of the community's vision for the park, and even a contest to name the park. The final design honors the site's former use as a fire station, while reflecting the community's vision of a neighborhood park.

## Blumenfield to Tackle Ports, Airport as TCT Chair



On July 1, Council President Herb Wesson announced committee assignments for the new Council session which was sworn-in on July 1, 2015.

Blumenfield was selected as Chairman of the Council's newly reconstituted Trade, Commerce, and Technology Committee (TCT). In that capacity, Blumenfield will play a leadership role in guiding the continued modernizations of our convention center, the Port of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles World Airports, which manages Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and Van Nuys Airport, along with Ontario International Airport.

"Los Angeles is among the world's most global cities and our port and airports remain key jobs engines and economic drivers for the entire region," said Blumenfield. "I look forward to the challenge of working to push the Port of Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports into the 21st century."

Blumenfield will help oversee the City of Los Angeles's trade relationships, both domestically and internationally and its policies related to tourism and commerce. Additionally, Blumenfield will continue to direct policy related to the innovation, technology, and the City's Information Technology Agency.

Blumenfield retained his position as a member of the powerful Budget and Finance Committee, as well as his role as vice-chair of the Council's Energy and Environment Committee. Through his work on those committees, Blumenfield has taken on labor negotiations with the DWP, pushed the City to find new, creative ways to deal with California's historic drought, and worked to pass two budgets that set the City on the path to fiscal sustainability.

Blumenfield was also asked to sit on the Council's Arts, Parks, and River Committee which dovetails with Blumenfield's decades-long record of advocacy on behalf of open space in Los Angeles and for the revitalization of the Los Angeles River as a natural and recreation resource.

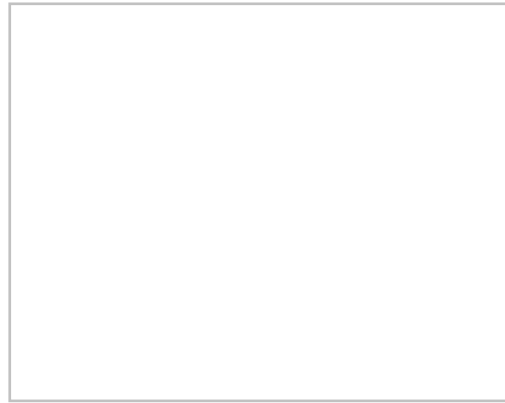
Additionally, Blumenfield will serve on the newly created Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive Job Creation Plan.

## Blumenfield Broadband Measure Moves Forward

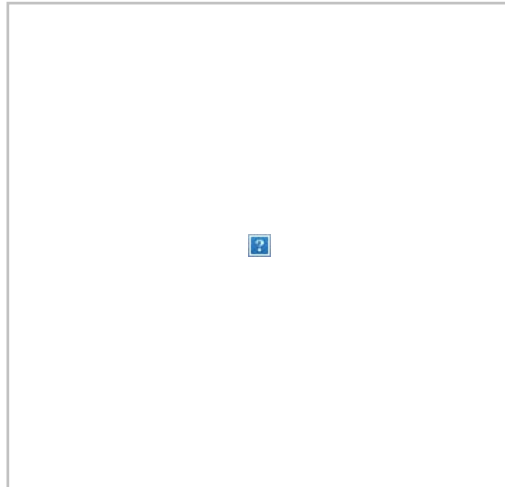
Following the release of the CityLinkLA Request for Participants last month, the City of Los Angeles held a mandatory proposers' conference for prospective applicants.

The proposers' conference is an important gauge of the interest in any RFP, and the CityLinkLA team was pleased to host a packed room featuring technology and telecommunications heavyweights.

CityLinkLA is the City-led initiative, spearheaded by Councilmember Blumenfield, to bring gigabit broadband speeds to Los Angeles and to close the digital divide in Los Angeles by guaranteeing free wireless service in exchange for the use of City assets.



## Blumenfield Swears-In Valley Community College Trustee



Blumenfield last month presided over the swearing-in of Los Angeles Community College Trustee Andra Hoffman to her first term on the board that oversees Los Angeles's nine community colleges, including Pierce College in Woodland Hills.

Although board members are elected at-large, Hoffman is the only member of the board from Los Angeles's San Fernando Valley. Three of the system's nine colleges are in the San Fernando Valley. Hoffman, who was raised in Van Nuys and lives in Encino, has 18 years of experience in community college education.

"We are so fortunate to have Andra Hoffman on the Board," said Blumenfield. "Her strong commitment to education, her tenacity, her deep knowledge and extensive experience will undoubtedly make a tremendous difference."

## Blumenfield Urges International Cooperation with Israel

Responding to news reports that Amsterdam would not be following through on their planned Sister City relationship with Tel Aviv, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield introduced a measure, co-presented by then-Councilmember Tom LaBonge on his final day in office, to urge Amsterdam Mayor Eberhard Van der Laan to move forward with the planned relationship between the two cities. A vote in Amsterdam to establish the relationship had been planned for July 1, but has since been cancelled.

"As a City that opens its arms to the world and is committed to the promotion of global cooperation, cultural understanding and economic development through the Sister Cities movement, we in Los Angeles urge Mayor Van der Laan to reverse course and strengthen bilateral relations with Tel Aviv," said Councilmember Bob Blumenfield. "Against the backdrop of increasing anti-semitic incidents in Holland and throughout Europe, building bridges of understanding with the only pluralistic democracy in the Middle East has never been more important."

According to the country's main anti-semitism watchdog, the Center for Information and Documentation on Israel

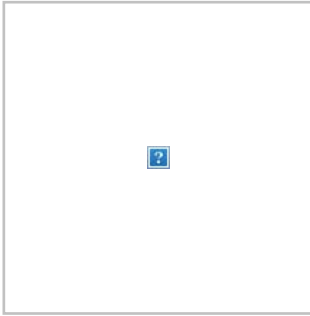
The City of Los Angeles maintains 25 Sister City relationships worldwide, including with Eilat, Israel's southernmost city.

In 2014, following the signing of a memorandum of understanding between California and Israel, Blumenfield established the Los Angeles/Eilat Innovation and Cooperation Task Force. The task force builds upon the 56 year old Sister City relationship to promote collaboration and advancement in technology investment, business development and research opportunities in clean technology, water resources, solar energy and environmental technologies throughout Los Angeles and the State of Israel.

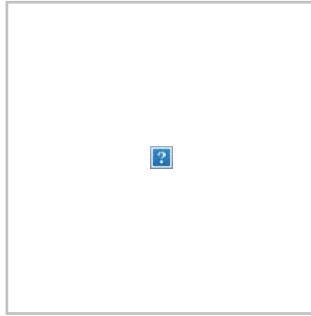
Sister Cities International was created at President Eisenhower's 1956 White House conference on citizen diplomacy and since its inception, has played a key role in renewing and strengthening important global relationships. Councilmember LaBonge is a longtime supporter and Chairman of Sister Cities of Los Angeles. On June 25, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced that LaBonge would serve as Chairman Emeritus of the organization.

(CID), anti-semitic incidents in Holland rose 71% in 2014.

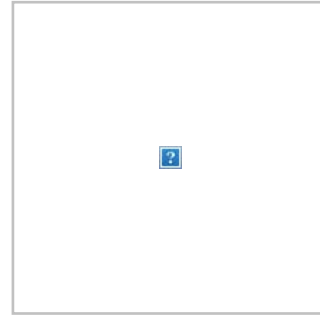
## Around town...



*Blumenfield joins representatives from Fleet Street to check out the newly installed bike racks at the Tarzana Recreation Center, on June 25, 2015.*



*Blumenfield celebrates Canada Day with Cpl. Peters of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Blumenfield's Legislative Director and Ottawa native, John Popoch, on July 1, 2015.*



*Blumenfield helps unveil "R. HERO," a 6 foot tall blue dalmatian that honors our first responders at the Boys & Girls Club of the West Valley, on June 30, 2015.*

## Upcoming Events

### National Night Out - Topanga

Museum

*WHEN:*

Tuesday, August 4

4pm - 7pm

*WHERE:*

Guadalupe Community Center

21600 Hart St.

Canoga Park, CA

### El Salvador Foundation Back to School Event

*WHEN:*

Saturday, August 8

9am - 2pm

*WHERE:*

Winnetka Recreation Center

8401 Winnetka Ave

Winnetka, CA

### Valley Traffic Advisory Council & Valley Traffic Division

#### Still Saving Lives Golf Classic

*WHEN:*

Thursday, September 24

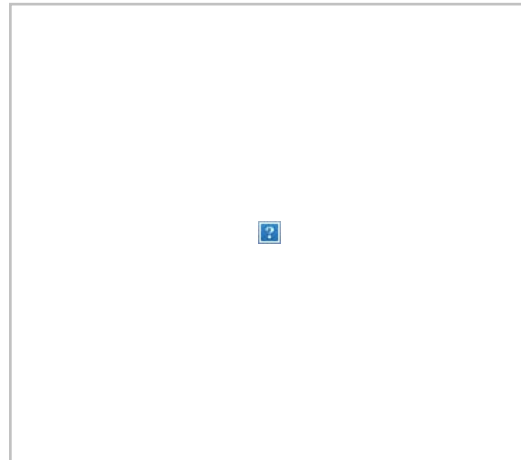
10:30 am Start

*WHERE:*

Moorpark Country Club

11800 Championship Dr.

Moorpark, CA



This is not a comprehensive calendar. You can list your own event by heading to [blumenfield.lacity.org/events](http://blumenfield.lacity.org/events) and clicking "host your own event."



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